

through the National Park Service, shall have right of access at all reasonable times to all public portions of the property now within Independence Hall National Historic Site and to Carpenters' Hall for the purpose of conducting visitors through such buildings and grounds and interpreting them to the public, that no changes or alterations shall be made in the property within the Independence Hall National Historic Site, including its buildings and grounds, or in Carpenters' Hall, except by mutual agreement between the Secretary of the Interior and the other parties to the contracts.

Construction of of-
fices, etc.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, is authorized to construct upon a portion of the land described in section 1 of this Act, or upon other land that may be donated for such purpose, which property he is hereby authorized to accept, such offices and administration buildings as he may deem advisable, together with a suitable auditorium for the interpretation of the historical features of the national historical park. The Secretary of the Interior is also authorized to accept donations of property of national historical significance located in the city of Philadelphia which the Secretary may deem proper for administration as part of the Independence National Historical Park. Any property donated for the purposes of this section shall become a part of the park, following its establishment, upon acceptance by the United States of title to such donated property.

Acceptance of dona-
tions.

Advisory commis-
sion.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized, in his discretion, to establish a suitable advisory commission of not to exceed eleven members. The members of the advisory commission shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, with three members to be recommended by the Governor of Pennsylvania, three by the mayor of Philadelphia, and one each by the Carpenters' Company of Philadelphia and the Independence Hall Association.

Functions.

The functions of the advisory commission shall be to render advice to the Secretary of the Interior, from time to time, upon matters which the Secretary of the Interior may refer to them for consideration.

SEC. 5. The administration, protection, and development of the park shall be exercised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior by the National Park Service, subject to the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U. S. C. 1-4), as amended and supplemented, and the Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666; 16 U. S. C. 461-467).

Appropriation au-
thorized.

SEC. 6. For the purpose of acquiring the property described in section 1 of this Act, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated not to exceed the sum of \$4,435,000. Funds appropriated pursuant to this Act shall be available for any expenses incidental to acquisition of property as prescribed by this Act, including the employment of the necessary services in the District of Columbia, and including to the extent deemed necessary by the Secretary of the Interior, the employment without regard to the civil-service laws or the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, of such experts and other officers and employees as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act efficiently and in the public interest.

42 Stat. 1488.
5 U. S. C. §§ 661-674.

Approved June 28, 1948.

[CHAPTER 688]

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to expedite the provision of housing in connection with national defense, and for other purposes", approved October 14, 1940, as amended.

June 28, 1948
[H. R. 5710]
[Public Law 796]

Defense housing,
amendment.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act

entitled "An Act to expedite the provision of housing in connection with national defense, and for other purposes", approved October 14, 1940, as amended, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section 505:

"SEC. 505. (a) Upon the filing of a request therefor as herein provided, the Administrator shall relinquish and transfer, without monetary consideration, to any educational institution all contractual rights (including the right to revenues and other proceeds) and all property right, title, and interest of the United States in and with respect to any temporary housing located on land owned by such institution, or controlled by it and not held by the United States: *Provided*, That any net revenues or other proceeds from such housing to which the United States is entitled shall not cease, by virtue of this section 505, to accrue to the United States until the end of the month in which the rights, title, and interest with respect to such housing are relinquished and transferred hereunder, and the obligation of the transferee to pay such accrued amounts shall not be affected by this section: *And provided further*, That this shall not be deemed to require a transfer to an educational institution which has no contractual or other interest in the housing or the land on which it is located except that of a lessor. As used in this section, the term 'temporary housing' shall include any housing (including trailers and other mobile or portable housing) constructed, acquired, or made available under this title V, and includes any structures, appurtenances, and other property, real or personal, acquired for or held in connection therewith.

"(b) The filing of a request under this section must be made within one hundred and twenty days of the date of enactment of the section and shall be authorized by the board of trustees or other governing body of the institution making the request. Such request shall be accompanied by an opinion of the chief law officer or legal counsel of the institution making the request to the effect that it has legal authority to make the request, to accept the transfer of and operate any property involved, and to perform its obligations under this section. The provisions of section 313 of this Act (and the contractual obligations of the educational institution to the Federal Government with respect thereto) shall cease to apply to any temporary housing to which rights are relinquished or transferred under this section 505 if (and only if) the request therefor is supported by a resolution of the governing body of the municipality or county having jurisdiction in the area specifically approving the waiver of the requirements of said section 313. The Administrator shall act as promptly as practicable on any request which complies with the provisions of this section 505 and is fully supported as herein required.

"(c) In filling vacancies in any housing for which rights are relinquished or transferred under subsection (a) of this section, preference shall be given to veterans of World War II or servicemen, who are students at the educational institution, and their families: *Provided*, That the educational institution shall be deemed to comply with this subsection (c) if it makes available to veterans of World War II or servicemen and their families accommodations in any housing of the institution equal in number to the accommodations in the housing for which such rights are relinquished or transferred."

SEC. 2. (a) Any Federal agency (including any wholly owned Government corporation) administering utility installations connected to a utility system for housing under the jurisdiction of the Housing and Home Finance Administrator is authorized—

- (1) to continue to provide utilities and utility services to such housing as long as it is under the jurisdiction of the Administrator;
- (2) to contract with the purchasers or transferees of such

60 Stat. 958.
42 U. S. C. §§ 1572,
1574; Supp. I, §§ 1572
(a), 1574 note.

Transfer to educa-
tional institutions.

Restriction.

"Temporary hous-
ing."

50 Stat. 260.
42 U. S. C. §§ 1571-
1574; Supp. I, §§ 1571-
1574.

Filing of request.

57 Stat. 388.
42 U. S. C. § 1553;
Supp. I, § 1563 note.
Post, p. 1064.

Preference to veter-
ans or servicemen.

Utilities.

housing to continue the utility connection with such installations and furnish such utilities and services as may be available and needed in connection with such housing, for such period of time (not exceeding the period of Federal administration of such installations) and subject to such terms (including the payment of the pro rata cost to the Government or the market value of the utilities and services furnished, whichever is greater) as may be determined by the head of the agency;

(3) to dispose of such installations, when excess to the needs of the agency, and where not excess to grant an option to purchase, to the purchasers or transferees of such housing, for an amount not less than the appraised value of the installations and upon such terms and conditions as the head of the agency shall establish.

Easements for utility purposes.

(b) Any Federal agency (including any wholly owned Government corporation) having under its jurisdiction lands across which run any part of a utility system for housing under the jurisdiction of the Administrator is authorized to grant to the Administrator, or to the purchasers or transferees of such housing, easements (which may be perpetual) on such land for utility purposes.

56 Stat. 12.
42 U. S. C. § 1524;
Supp. I, § 1524 note.
Ante, p. 492.

SEC. 3. Section 4 of the Act entitled "An Act to expedite the provision of housing in connection with national defense, and for other purposes", approved October 14, 1940, as amended, is hereby amended by striking out the period at the end thereof and adding the following: "*Provided further*, That, for the purposes of this section, housing constructed or acquired under the provisions of Public Law 781, Seventy-sixth Congress, approved September 9, 1940, or Public Law 9, 73, or 353, Seventy-seventh Congress, approved, respectively, March 1, 1941, May 24, 1941, and December 17, 1941, shall be deemed to be housing constructed or acquired under this Act."

54 Stat. 872; 55 Stat. 14, 197, 810.

SEC. 4. Section 313 of the Act entitled "An Act to expedite the provision of housing in connection with national defense, and for other purposes", approved October 14, 1940, as amended, is hereby amended by striking out the following words in the second sentence: "two years after the President declares that the emergency declared by him on September 8, 1939, has ceased to exist" and inserting in lieu thereof "January 1, 1950".

57 Stat. 388.
42 U. S. C. § 1553;
Supp. I, § 1553 note.

SEC. 5. The Defense Homes Corporation is authorized to convey, without reimbursement therefor, to Howard University, a corporation organized pursuant to an Act of Congress, all of its right, title, and interest in certain lands in the District of Columbia, together with the improvements constructed thereon and the personal property used in connection therewith, and commonly known as Lucy Diggs Slowe Hall, 1919 Third Street Northwest, and George Washington Carver Hall, 211 Elm Street Northwest: *Provided*, That no employee of the United States or of the District of Columbia who, on the date of approval of this Act, is a tenant of either Lucy Diggs Slowe Hall or George Washington Carver Hall shall, unless quarters were assigned to such tenant on a transient basis or on the sole basis that the tenant was enrolled at an educational institution, be evicted from such halls within four years after the approval of this Act, except where such tenant commits a nuisance or otherwise violates any obligation of tenancy.

Conveyance to Howard University.

Eviction from certain halls.

Discharge of indebtedness by Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

The Reconstruction Finance Corporation is hereby authorized and directed to discharge the indebtedness of the Defense Homes Corporation to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in an amount equal to the Defense Homes Corporation's net investment in these properties as of the date of transfer, as determined by the President of the Defense Homes Corporation, and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to discharge the indebtedness of the Recon-

struction Finance Corporation to the Treasury in like amount as of the same date.

SEC. 6. The right, title, and interest in any lands, together with the improvements constructed thereon, which are conveyed pursuant to the authority granted by section 5 hereof, shall revert to the United States upon a written finding made by the President prior to July 1, 1963, that the property is needed by the United States in connection with a national defense emergency.

Approved June 28, 1948.

Reversion to U. S.

Ante, p. 1064.

[CHAPTER 689]

AN ACT

To authorize the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to convey a certain tract of land in the State of Arkansas to Washington County, Arkansas.

June 28, 1948

[S. 2349]

[Public Law 797]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized and directed, subject to such terms and conditions as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe, to convey by quitclaim deed to Washington County, Arkansas, without consideration, the following-described tract of land, which is a part of the lands of the Veterans' Administration hospital, Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas:

Washington County,
Ark.
Conveyance.

A part of the southeast quarter of northeast quarter of section 9 and a part of the southwest quarter of northwest quarter of section 10, township 16 north, range 30 west, fifth principal meridian, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of southeast quarter of northeast quarter of said section 9, running thence north two hundred feet; thence east five hundred and thirty feet; thence north fifty degrees eighteen minutes east two hundred and thirty-four and eighty-three one-hundredths feet; thence east seven hundred and forty-four and seventeen one-hundredths feet to the center of said United States Highway Numbered 71; thence south two degrees two minutes west along center of said United States Highway Numbered 71 three hundred and fifty and twenty-four one-hundredths feet; thence west one thousand four hundred and forty-two and forty one-hundredths feet to the place of beginning, containing nine and eighty one-hundredths acres.

The deed shall reserve to the United States all interest in and to any oil, mineral, or fissionable material in said land, and shall provide for reversion to the United States if the land ceases to be used for hospital purposes.

Reversion to U. S.

Approved June 28, 1948.

[CHAPTER 690]

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of State to perform certain consular-type functions within the United States and its Territories and possessions.

June 28, 1948

[H. R. 4330]

[Public Law 798]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, until such time as the President shall determine and proclaim that a German Government capable of representing its own nationals in the United States and its Territories and possessions has been established, and under such regulations as the Secretary of State may prescribe, the Department of State is authorized to perform consular functions for German nationals within the United States and its Territories and possessions, and to collect fees and make charges for services rendered:

Department of
State.
Consular functions
for German nationals
in U. S.